

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claims 1-38 (canceled)

Claims 39-45 (canceled)

Claim 46 (previously presented): ~~The polishing apparatus of claim 45,~~ A polishing apparatus comprising:

a polishing platen;

a polishing pad overlying the polishing platen, the polishing pad having a first polishing region, a second polishing region, and a third polishing region, wherein the second polishing region lies between the first polishing region and the second polishing region;

a carrier; and

an alignment detector, wherein the alignment detector is used to align the carrier to the second polishing region of the polishing pad, wherein the first polishing region comprises a first plurality of holes having a first hole depth and a first hole width, the second polishing region comprises a second plurality of holes having a second hole depth and a second hole width, and the third polishing region comprises a third plurality of holes having a third hole depth and a third hole width wherein the second hole depth is greater than the first hole depth and the third hole depth.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The polishing apparatus of claim 45 46, wherein the second hole width is greater than the first hole width and the third hole width.

Claim 48 (new): The polishing apparatus of claim 46, wherein the alignment detector comprises a laser.

Claim 49 (new): The polishing apparatus of claim 46, wherein the alignment detector comprises a video camera.

Claim 50 (new): The polishing apparatus of claim 46, wherein the first polishing region has a first hole density, the second polishing region has a second hole density, and the third polishing region has a third hole density.

Claim 51 (new): The polishing apparatus of claim 46, wherein the second hole density is greater than the first hole density and the third hole density.

Claim 52 (new): The polishing apparatus of claim 46, wherein the polishing platen comprises an alignment knob.